

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 16712 040713Z

55

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06

ORM-02 DHA-02 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /093 W

----- 129824

R 040647Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9415

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

UNCLAS CAIRO 16712

AMCONSUL PORT SAID SENDS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, LE, EG

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REFUGEES AT \$60 A HEAD

1. AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN CALLED ON CONSULATE NOVEMBER 29, SEEKING INFORMATION ON ATTORNEYS WHO MIGHT REPRESENT HIS FIRM IN DISPUTE WITH LOCAL, PRIVATE SHIP AGENT. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSING PROBLEM, SUBJECT SAID THAT HIS MALTESE FLAG VESSEL HAD BEEN ENGAGED FOR SOME MONTHS IN CARRYING REFUGEES FROM LEBANESE PORTS TO EGYPT AT SIXTY DOLLARS A HEAD.

2. APPARENTLY, VESSEL HAD OPERATED FIRST OUT OF JOUNIE AND THEN, AS A NEW MARKET OPENED IN SIDON, FROM THE MORE SOUTHERN PORT. HE WAS RATHER BITTER THAT ON HIS VESSEL'S LAST PASSAGE, ONLY 20 OF THE PERHAPS 60 PASSENGERS WERE PAYING CUSTOMERS, THE OTHERS HAVING BEEN PUT ONBOARD AT GUN POINT, OVER MASTER'S PROTEST.

SUBJECT SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THIS, AND BECAUSE REFUGEE TRADE WAS NOW ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY PALESTINIAN, HE WAS ORDERING HIS VESSEL BACK TO GREECE FOR REFITTING AS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAIRO 16712 040713Z

SUMMER CHARTER YACHT. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT VESSEL

GROSSED ABOUT \$150,000 IN REFUGEE BUSINESS, WHICH APPARENTLY JUST COVERED VESSEL'S OPERATING COSTS.

3. ALTHOUGH OF MINOR CONSEQUENCE IN UNDERSTANDING COURSE OF RECENT LEBANESE HISTORY, THIS CASE MAY BE OF INTEREST TO EXTENT THAT IT IS PROBABLY NOT UNIQUE INSTANCE OF COMMERCIAL SIDE OF CIVIL WAR. INDEED, RUMORS AND STORIES CIRCULATING PORT SAID SUGGEST THAT MASTERS OF TRAMP STEAMERS HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROFITS BY SELLING DECK SPACE TO REFUGEES AND POCKETING MONEY.
SIGNED SURBER.
EILTS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO16712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760449-0738
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761271/aaaacjcm.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEBANESE REFUGEES AT \$60 A HEAD
TAGS: SREF, LE, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006